

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A watch assembly comprising a case housing the watch mechanism and the display screen, actuator means for actuating the mechanism external to the case and connected to the mechanism by connection means, and a wristlet supporting the actuator means, the connection means, and the case, the case being placed on the back of the hand, the assembly being characterized in that the wristlet ~~[[2]]~~ comprises a flexible piece comprising:

- a) a proximal portion (3) for surrounding the wrist;
- b) a distal portion (4) for surrounding at least the first phalanx at the base of the index finger; and
- c) an intermediate portion ~~[[5]]~~ for extending over the back of the hand between said proximal and distal portions ~~(3, 4)~~ and supporting the case ~~[[6]]~~; and in that at least one actuator means ~~(9, 10)~~ is mounted laterally on the distal portion ~~[[4]]~~ of the wristlet ~~[[2]]~~ so as to be actuatable by the thumb of the same hand.

2. (Currently amended) An assembly according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the distal portion ~~[[4]]~~ of the wristlet ~~[[2]]~~ is configured to surround only the proximal phalanx and possibly also the middle phalanx of the index finger.

3. (Currently amended) An assembly according to claim 1 ~~or claim 2, characterized in that~~ wherein two distinct actuator elements ~~(9, 10)~~ are mounted laterally and longitudinally on the distal portion ~~[[4]]~~ of the wristlet ~~[[2]]~~, in particular an element ~~[[9]]~~ for actuating an ON/OFF control, and an element ~~[[10]]~~ for actuating an intermediate time control.

4. (Currently amended) An assembly according to claim 1 ~~or claim 2, characterized in that~~ wherein two distinct actuator elements ~~(15, 16)~~ are mounted transversely on the distal portion ~~[[4]]~~ of the wristlet ~~[[2]]~~, and in particular a first element ~~[[15]]~~ disposed on the side of the index finger serving to actuate an

ON/OFF control, and a second element (16) disposed beside the first element, e.g. on the back of the index finger, serving to actuate an intermediate time control.

5. (Currently amended) An assembly according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the actuator means and the connection means are flexible.

6. (Currently amended) An assembly according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 5, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the flexible piece in which the wristlet ~~[(2)]~~ is made comprises a layer of flexible material, in particular elastomer material, having the connection means ~~[(12)]~~ and the actuator means ~~(9, 10)~~ integrated therein.

7. (Currently amended) An assembly according to claim 6, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the actuator means ~~(9, 10)~~ are constituted by a powder which is locally mixed in the layer of flexible material and which presents electrical resistance that varies as a function of the pressure that is exerted thereon.

8. (Currently amended) An assembly according to claim 5, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the actuator elements are formed by silkscreen printing on the wristlet.

9. (Currently amended) An assembly according to ~~any one of claims 6 to 8, characterized in that~~ claim 6, wherein the connection means are metal threads, wires, or tracks embedded in the layer of flexible material.

10. (Currently amended) An assembly according to claim 5, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the connection means are metal textile threads, hidden at least in part in an element for finishing the side of the wristlet.

11. (Currently amended) An assembly according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 10, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the case is oval in shape with its major axis extending in the longitudinal direction of the hand, the two opposite sides of the intermediate portion closely tracking the oval configuration.

12. (Currently amended) An assembly according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 11, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the wristlet $[(2)]$ includes an opening in the intermediate portion giving access to the back face of the case.

13. (Currently amended) An assembly according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 12, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the distal portion $[(4)]$ of the wristlet $[(2)]$ is designed to surround the proximal phalanx and the middle phalanx and includes a transverse cutout $[(21)]$ situated in register with the joint between the proximal and middle phalanges of the index finger.

14. (Currently amended) An assembly according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 13, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein at least one actuator element ~~(17, 18)~~ is disposed on the intermediate portion $[(5)]$ or the proximal portion $[(3)]$ of the wristlet, at a distance from the case $[(6)]$.

15. (New) An assembly according to claim 2, wherein two distinct actuator elements are mounted laterally and longitudinally on the distal portion of the wristlet, in particular an element for actuating an ON/OFF control, and an element for actuating an intermediate time control.

16. (New) An assembly according to claim 2, wherein two distinct actuator elements are mounted transversely on the distal portion of the wristlet, and in particular a first element disposed on the side of the index finger serving to actuate an ON/OFF control, and a second element disposed beside the first element, e.g., on the back of the index finger, serving to actuate an intermediate time control.

17. (New) An assembly according to claim 2, wherein the actuator means and the connection means are flexible.

18. (New) An assembly according to claim 2, wherein the flexible piece in which the wristlet is made comprises a layer of flexible material, in particular elastomer material, having the connection means and the actuator means integrated therein.

19. (New) An assembly according to claim 6, wherein the actuator means are constituted by a powder which is locally mixed in the layer of flexible material and which presents electrical resistance that varies as a function of the pressure that is exerted thereon.

20. (New) An assembly according to claim 6, wherein the actuator elements are formed by silkscreen printing on the wristlet.